## **Media Release**





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## Town Selects Thomas & Hutton to Design Dr. Mellichamp Drive Streetscape Project

Town Council has selected Savannah-based Thomas & Hutton Engineering Company to design Dr. Mellichamp Drive Streetscape project which will provide approximately more than 120 new parking spaces, sidewalks, street lighting and improved stormwater drainage in Bluffton's Historic District. This project includes the installation of parking spaces and establishment of a more efficient traffic flow for the adjacent M.C. Riley Sports Complex, where patrons currently park in a grass lot.

"Thomas & Hutton has extensive experience with similar projects throughout the Southeast and also has a track record with town projects such as the Calhoun Street/Adjacent Area Study and the second phase of May River Road Streetscape," Bryan McIlwee, director of engineering, said. "The Town is pleased to be partnering with them again."

The \$131,400 contract was awarded through a request for qualification (RFQ) process in August and will include refining the proposed Master Plan, engineering design and obtaining construction documents and permitting.

"Combining the M.C. Riley Sports Complex project with the Dr. Mellichamp Streetscape project is a homerun for the Town for it will simultaneously add more parking spaces, improve walkability between the sports facility, Goethe-Shults neighborhood and Bluffton's Historic District," Mayor Lisa Sulka said. "The town's goal is to continually make Bluffton, its neighborhoods and its Historic District more user-friendly. These infrastructure improvements are investments in our overall quality of life."